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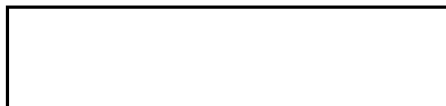
OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD
Washington 25, D. C.

April 1, 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD

SUBJECT: Status of United States Program for National Security
as of December 31, 1953.

Forwarded for information is a copy of the first semi-annual status report of the Operations Coordinating Board as approved by the Board for submission to the National Security Council together with a copy of my memorandum to the NSC of March 23, 1954.



Elmer B. Staats
Executive Officer

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Attachments:

1. Memo for Mr. Lay, NSC,
from Executive Officer, OCB,
Subject as above, 3/23/54.
2. Activities of the Operations
Coordinating Board, Status as
of 12/31/54, dated 3/24/54.

NSC REVIEW COMPLETED, 6/26/03

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State Department review completed

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OPERATIONS COORDINATING BOARD
Washington 25, D. C.

March 23, 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. James S. Lay, Jr.
Executive Secretary
National Security Council

SUBJECT: Status of United States Program for
National Security as of December 31, 1953.

Reference: Memorandum to the Chairman, OCB, from the
Executive Secretary, NSC, dated
December 14, 1953.

The report submitted herewith on behalf of the Operations Coordinating Board covers the status of the OCB for the period ending December 31, 1953, and includes programs and actions originated by the Board, referred to it by the President, or carried over from the PSB. The report also contains brief notes on the development of the Operations Coordinating Board.

Considerable progress has been made on many of the items covered here, from the end of December to date, while this first semi-annual report was being developed. Such additional progress will be treated in detail in the individual OCB project reports to the NSC and will be noted in the next semi-annual report as of June 30, 1954. The presentation of this first semi-annual status report was delayed to develop a satisfactory form and content for such reporting.

/S/ Elmer E. Staats
Executive Officer

Attachment:

OCB Status Report to
NSC for Period Ending
December 31, 1953.

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March 24, 1954

ACTIVITIES OF THE OPERATIONS

COORDINATING BOARD

Status as of December 31, 1953

(Prepared by the Operations Coordinating Board)

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I. Organizational Background	2
II. NSC Assignments	3
III. OCB Projects	5
IV. PSB Projects	7

PART I - ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Origin and Functions

1. The Operations Coordinating Board (OCB) was established by Executive Order 10483 of September 3, 1953, based largely on the June 30 recommendations of the President's Committee on International Information Activities. Its members are the Under Secretary of State (Chairman), the Deputy Secretary of Defense, the Director of Foreign Operations Administration, the Director of Central Intelligence and a Presidential representative. As contemplated in the Executive Order, the Director of the U. S. Information Agency also participates in the work of the Board.

2. On September 17, the OCB held its first meeting. The Executive Order provided for the abolition of the Psychological Strategy Board (PSB) within sixty days. PSB was administratively terminated on October 31.

3. The OCB is concerned with the coordinated implementation of national security policies by the Executive agencies. The establishing order specifies that in accordance with national security policies and upon the direction of the President, the Board will advise with the agencies responsible for executing such policies, regarding detailed operational planning, coordination and timely execution, in a manner designed to contribute fully to the attainment of national security objectives and the desired climate of opinion. OCB may also initiate new action proposals within national security policies, as situations permit; and it must report to the NSC on its activities.

Transition

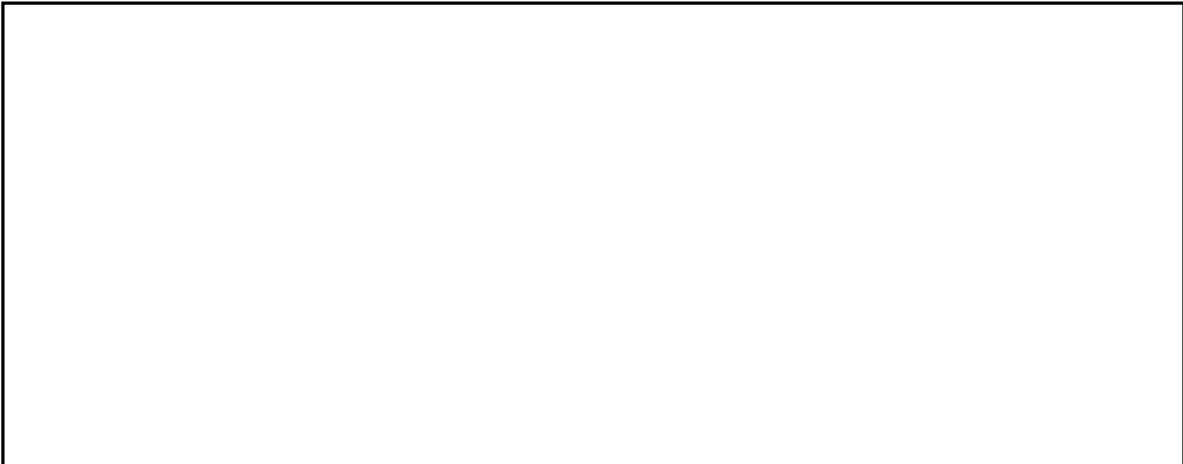
4. Through September and October, the OCB and its staff developed its pattern of work. The Board approved a new administrative support agreement on September 30, in which the participating agencies undertook to provide the funds, personnel and services needed to carry out the Executive Order. Under this agreement, the Department of State is responsible for the administrative support of the Board and its Staff. By the end of December, the staff numbered 48 persons, compared with 72 for PSB on July 1. OCB security practices were adapted to NSC requirements. By December 31, 12 coordination assignments had been made by NSC to OCB, OCB had initiated 9 new projects, and 15 PSB programs were still being coordinated by OCB.

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OCB Procedures

5. Coordination is normally effected through a working group for each project, chaired by the agency of major operational responsibility, with the participation of an OCB Staff Representative. These groups ensure that agency roles under NSC policies are clearly understood and executed in accordance with the terms of Executive Order 10483, summarized above in paragraph 3. In their coordinating activities, these groups develop new proposals for action, for referral to the agencies concerned, the Board or the Board Assistants. The working groups may also make recommendations regarding the need for revision of national policies, for submission through Board channels to the NSC.

Supplementary Responsibilities of OCB



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PART II - NSC ASSIGNMENTS

It is to be noted that Progress Reports on each of the assignments described below will be made periodically to the Operations Coordinating Board and then by the OCB to the National Security Council. In view of this regular reporting procedure, and the inclusion herein of the reporting date for each assignment, detailed reports on the status of these NSC assignments are not included in this report.

1. U. S. Objectives and Courses of Action with Respect to Japan
(NSC 125/2 - 8/7/52; NSC 125/6 - 6/29/53).

NSC Progress Report will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, April 1, 1954.

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2. Plan for Conducting Psychological Operations During General Hostilities
(NSC 127/1 - 7/25/52)

First report of December 9, 1953, returned for revision. Revised report to be ready for the Executive Officer, OCB, on March 26, 1954.

3. Volunteer Freedom Corps
(NSC 143/2 - 5/20/53)

Report will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, March 24, 1954.

4. U. S. Objectives and Courses of Action with Respect to Formosa and the Chinese Nationalist Government
(NSC 146/2 - 11/6/53)

Report as of March 1, 1954 will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, April 1, 1954.

5. U. S. Objectives and Policies with Respect to Austria
(NSC 164/1 - 10/14/53)

Report was made to the Executive Officer, OCB, January 20, 1954. OCB report circulated to NSC on 2/5/54.

6. U. S. Policy Toward Communist China
(NSC 166/1 - 11/6/53)

Report as of March 1, 1954 will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, April 1, 1954.

7. Electro-Magnetic Communications
(Paragraphs 2(a), 8(a), 8(b), and 8(c) of NSC 169 - 10/27/53; OCB Mtg. 10/14/53)

Report will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, April 27, 1954.

8. U. S. Objectives and Courses of Action with Respect to Indonesia
(NSC 171/1 - 11/20/53)

Report will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, May 20, 1954.

9. U. S. Policy Toward the Soviet Satellites in Eastern Europe
(NSC 174 - 12/11/53)

Report will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, April 15, 1954.

TOP SECRET

10. U. S. Psychological Strategy Based on Thailand
(NSC Action No. 900, 9/9/53)

Report was made to the Executive Officer, OCB, February 1, 1954. OCB report circulated to NSC on 3/4/54.

11. Analysis of Possible Courses of Action in Korea
(NSC Action No. 972-d - 12/3/53)
U. S. Objectives and Courses of Action in Korea
(NSC 170/1 - 11/20/53)

Report will be made to the Executive Officer, OCB, March 31, 1954.

12. U. S. Courses of Action in Korea in the Absence of an Acceptable Political Settlement
(NSC 167/2 - 11/6/53)

Superseded by NSC 170/1. Separate report not needed.

PART III - OCB PROJECTS

1. Christmas East - (OCB Mtgs. 9/15/53, 10/21/53, 11/4/53, 12/2/53)

The original plan proposed a balloon delivery of food and other supplies to the peoples of the European Satellites. OCB, in the light of field advice and staff studies, rejected this plan and instead the Governments of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, and Rumania were requested to permit entry of duty-free food packages sponsored by CARE. Upon receipt of the refusals of the governments concerned, appropriate publicity was given the U. S. request and Satellite refusals.

2. Christmas West - (OCB Mtgs. 9/17 and 9/23/53)

Food was distributed to the needy of Western Europe as a Christmas gift of the American people. Operation consisted of the distribution of bulk and package food by government-to-government gift, by U. S. Armed Forces Christmas parties for indigenous personnel, and by non-governmental voluntary relief agencies in an amount not to exceed \$19 million. Distribution was made in Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany (West), Greece, Haiti, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Spain, UK, and Yugoslavia during Christmas week. The operation was completed during the first week in January.

3. National Operations Plan to Exploit Communist Bacteriological Warfare Hoax, Mistreatment of Prisoners of War, and other Atrocities Perpetrated by Communist Forces during the Korean War - (OCB Mtgs. 9/23 and 9/30/53.)

This self-explanatory proposal was developed to give the lie, once and for all, to several long-range communist propaganda maneuvers. It was closely integrated into the U. S. Delegation's action at the 8th UN General Assembly. The OCB agencies provided intelligence and information program support for the U. S. Delegation to the UN, and was especially active in the presentations of the bacteriological warfare hoax and atrocities issues in the UN. The OCB subsequently developed program support to handle the propaganda exploitation of the non-repatriated prisoners of war in Korea.

4. Coordinated Information Program for the Far East - (PSB D-44, Formosa) (OCB Mtgs. 11/4 and 11/11/53).

In order to achieve a more effective and more efficient utilization of information and propaganda personnel and facilities available in the Far East, the OCB undertook an examination of the existing situation with a view toward recommending improvements. Mr. Theodore Streibert, Director of USIA, made a personal inspection tour of the area. In light of his report the working group suggested certain actions to the operating agencies to improve the overall operation of the information program in the Far East.

5. Winter of Discontent - (OCB Mtgs. 11/18 and 11/25; Assts. Mtgs. 12/18 and 12/27/53.)

The OCB undertook a preliminary analysis of the targets of opportunity in relationship to food and other shortages within the communist orbit during the winter of 1953-54. The European aspects were referred to the NSC 174 working group and the Chinese aspects were referred to the NSC 146/2 working group. No opportunities for food shipments had developed as of December 31.

6. Effectiveness of the Escapee Program - (NSC 86/1 - OCB Mtg. 12/2/53)

OCB undertook to examine the adequacy of the operating and financial base for the conduct of USEP

activities and the effectiveness of the Escapee Program in meeting the objectives of NSC 86/1; the operational requirements of the interested agencies; and the extent to which the agencies are using and exploiting this program. A consolidated report is being developed.

7. President's UN Speech on Atomic Energy - (OCB Mtg. 12/9/53)

OCB undertook action to coordinate and increase the follow-up exploitation of the President's speech for peaceful utilization of atomic energy. Checklists of agency actions are being drafted into a national operational plan.

8. Iceland - (OCB Mtg. 12/16/53)

Increased communist activities and problems relating to the American military program in Iceland led the OCB to foster a renewed emphasis on increasing American prestige in Iceland. The OCB undertook the development of a coordinated action program to accomplish political effects and to improve the climate of opinion.

9. International Communications of U. S. Economic Policy - (Bd. Assts. Mtg. 12/30/53)

To counteract foreign and especially European fears of a U. S. recession, the OCB assisted in the formulation of a concentrated information program. As a major element in this program, steps were planned to insure the most effective overseas distribution of the President's Economic Report.

PART IV - PSB PROJECTS

The following are the PSB projects which were continued by OCB in accordance with its action of October 21, 1953. All other PSB projects were discontinued by the same OCB action.

1. Psychological Operations Plan Incident to Korea Cease-fire Negotiations (D-7c - 10/25/51)
Emergency Plan, Break-Off of Korean Armistice Negotiations (J-19-d - 9/18/51)

These contingency plans were referred to the Korean Working Group by its terms of reference (11/16/53) for recommendation as to their future disposition.

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2. National Overt Propaganda Policy Guidance for General War (D-11b - 11/15/51)

This plan was referred to the working group established to study the necessary revision of NSC 127/1.

3. Psychological Operations Plan for Reduction of Communist Power in France (D-14c - 1/31/52); Psychological Operations Plan for Reduction of Communist Power in Italy (D-15b - 2/21/52); A National Psychological Strategy Plan for Western Europe (D-38 - 9/22/53).

These three plans were referred to one working group (11/27/53) to develop a checklist of effective actions and to make recommendations as to the final disposition of the papers.

4. Psychological Operations Plan for Soviet Orbit Escapees: Phase "A" (D-18a - 12/20/51)

OCB action of October 21 assigned primary implementing responsibility to FOA. Operation of the program continued under general FOA supervision and was coordinated by means of the interdepartmental Escapee Operations agency chaired by FOA.

5. A National Psychological Program with Respect to Escapees from the Soviet Orbit: Phase "B" (D-18a/1a - 1/15/53)

OCB action of October 21 assigned primary implementing responsibility for these activities to CIA and to USIA. Agencies have implemented their responsibilities under this program through normal inter-agency coordination.

6. A National Psychological Strategy Program with Respect to Germany (D-21 - 10/9/52)

OCB action of October 21 continued this paper. Implementation by member agencies was progressing satisfactorily through normal coordinating channels. OCB action on the paper has been held in abeyance pending a new NSC paper.

7. Psychological Strategy Program for the Middle East (D-22 - 2/6/53)

OCB action of October 21 continued this paper and its existing working group.

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8. Psychological Strategy Program for Japan (D-27 - 1/15/53)

Referred to the working group established to coordinate the implementation of NSC 125/2 and 125/6 for recommendation as to its future disposition.

9. A Strategic Concept for a National Psychological Program with Particular Reference to Cold War Operations Under NSC 10/5 (D-31 - 11/26/53)

OCB Action of October 21 assigned primary responsibility to CIA.

10. U. S. Doctrinal Program (D-33 - 7/10/53)

OCB action of October 21 directed USIA to develop its operational plan for presentation to OCB in January 1954.

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12. Plan for Psychological Exploitation of Stalin's Death (D-40 - 4/23/53)

This paper was referred to the NSC 174 working group for development of additional courses of action.

13. Interim U. S. Psychological Strategy for Exploitation of Unrest in Satellite Europe (D-45 - 7/1/53)

This paper was superseded with the approval of NSC 174.

14. A Plan for Exploitation of Dissidence in the Soviet Bloc: USSR Armed Forces (D-43 - 7/15/53)

OCB action of October 21 assigned responsibility to Defense.

15. OCB Committee on the 8th General Assembly (OCB Mtgs. 11/4/53 and 12/2/53)

OCB (previously PSB) working group provided "psychological support" to Ambassador Lodge and the U. S. Delegation to the 8th United Nations General Assembly.

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